ABM SPECIAL STUDY GROUP

Minutes of Meeting Held January 17, 1968
Central Intelligence Agency
Room 6E 60, Langley
0900 - 1130 hours

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Chairman - [   ]   NIPE

Attendance

25X1A   Mr. John A. Bross*   NIPE
         [   ]   Consultant
         RADM Donald M. Showers   DIA
25X1A   [   ]   DIA
         Mr. Clifford I. Cummings   DDR&E
         Dr. William Wollenberg   OSD(SA)
         Mr. Frank Perez   State Department
25X1A   NSA
         [   ]   CIA
                                                         CIA
                                                         NIPE

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*Part of the meeting

1.   The first meeting of the ABM Special Study Group was held on 17 January 1968. The meeting was begun by distributing folders that contained background for the ABM Study. Various documents were briefly reviewed and discussed during the course of the meeting.

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2.   [   ] Consultant to the ELINT Evaluation Working Group (EEWG)) gave a brief presentation on the methodology being used in the current ELINT Study. [   ] discussed a probability matrix of collectors versus observables. Each entry in

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[   ]

3.   Mr. John Bross (NIPE) stressed the high priority being given to the ABM Study by various top government officials. He noted the dynamic nature and complexity of such a study effort and how such a task would have been very difficult to initiate only a few years ago. For one thing the intelligence product is very ambigious and answers to questions being posed are not readily available. Also, the intelligence targets have dynamic characters in that a priority target may be ABM, say, and then suddenly shift to the Soviet presence in the Mid-East. He cited the need for an organizational approach to the study that would organize the consumers and suppliers of intelligence in an effective relationship.

4.   Mr. Bross went on to state that the Bureau of the Budget (BoB) has officially requested that an ABM Study be undertaken. Originally, the BoB request was for study results to be applicable to FY 69 planning, but this was later amended to a desire for results available for FY 70.

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5.   Questions were raised on exactly what the BoB Terms of Reference requested. Considerable discussion followed the opening of this topic, and it was finally decided to request [   ] o redraft a Terms of Reference to eliminate possible misinterpretations.

6.   The applicability of the Ballistic Missile methodology to the ABM effort was discussed at length. It was generally agreed that

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the existing methodology appeared relevant (with possible modifications) to the ABM Study. However, there was general agreement to utilize the simplest possible methodology that would produce valid conclusions.

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7. [   ] distributed a paper showing the start of a representative breakdown of the ABM problem into its components. Dr. Wollenberg, [   ], Mr. Cummings, and [   ] were   25X1A requested to evaluate this breakdown for its possible usefulness in arriving at a set (or sets) of information needs and values and for relating the needs to collectors through observables. However, another approach exists to arrive at observables. That is, one could take the list of ABM collectors and list the ABM-related observables with which each collector is associated. The Study Group members agreed to give further thought to this latter method to arrive at observables.

8. The next meeting of the ABM Special Study Group will be held on 19 January 1968 at 2:00 p.m.

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Executive Secretary

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